

U.S. Ser. No. 10/761,400  
Applicants: Kazuhiko Ohnishi et al.  
Amendment in Response to the  
Office Action Dated November 16, 2006

**Listing of the Claims**

Claim 1 (Canceled)  
Claim 2 (Canceled)  
Claim 3 (Canceled)  
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Claim 14 (Withdrawn)  
Claim 15 (Withdrawn)  
Claim 16 (Withdrawn)  
Claim 17 (Withdrawn)  
Claim 18 (Withdrawn)  
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Claim 21 (Withdrawn)

Claim 22 (Withdrawn)

Claim 23 (Withdrawn)

Claim 24 (Withdrawn)

Claim 25 (Withdrawn)

Claim 26 (Canceled)

Claim 27 (Canceled)

Claim 28 (Canceled)

Claim 29 (Withdrawn)

Claim 30 (Canceled)

Claim 31 (Canceled)

Claim 32 (Canceled)

Claim 33 (Canceled)

Claim 34 (Canceled)

Claim 35 (Canceled)

Claim 36 (Withdrawn)

Claim 37 (Withdrawn)

Claim 38 (Withdrawn)

Claim 39 (Withdrawn)

Claim 40 (Withdrawn)

Claim 41 (Withdrawn)

**Claim 42 (New):** A modified starch obtained by reacting the hydroxyl group in a starch with vinyl acetate and at least one aliphatic compound selected from vinyl laurate, vinyl stearate, lauric acid chloride and stearic acid chloride respectively in the presence of an acylifying or esterifying catalyst in a non-aqueous organic solvent to substitute the hydroxyl group with the aliphatic group.

**Claim 43 (New):** A modified starch as claimed in claim 42, wherein the hydroxyl group in the molecule is further reacted with at least one reactive compound having a functional group complementally reactive with the hydroxyl group in the starch selected from radically polymerizable unsaturated group-containing compound, a polycarboxylic acid anhydride, an unsaturated fatty acid and a blocked polyisocyanate, a reactive group substitution degree being in the range of 0.01 to 2.5.

**Claim 44 (New):** A heat-curable coating composition comprising (1) the modified starch as claimed in claim 42, a heat-curable hydroxyl group-containing resin and a curing agent, or (2) the modified starch as claimed in claim 42 and a curing agent.

**Claim 45 (New):** A heat-curable coating composition comprising a modified starch obtained by reacting the hydroxyl group in the starch with vinyl acetate, vinyl laurate or lauric acid chloride and polycarboxylic acid anhydride as claimed in claim 43, and a curing agent.

**Claim 46 (New):** A photo-curable coating composition comprising a modified starch obtained by reacting the hydroxyl group in the starch with vinyl acetate, vinyl laurate or lauric acid chloride and the radically polymerizable unsaturated group-containing compound as claimed in claim 43.

**Claim 47 (New):** A cold-curable coating composition comprising a modified starch obtained by reacting the hydroxyl group in the starch with vinyl acetate, vinyl laurate or lauric acid chloride and the unsaturated fatty acid as claimed in claim 43, and a catalyst.

**Claim 48 (New):** A heat-curable coating composition comprising a modified starch obtained by reacting vinyl acetate, vinyl laurate or lauric acid chloride and the blocked polyisocyanate as claimed in claim 43.